

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

WILDLIFE FEATURE

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### DOZENS OF ENDANGERED ANIMALS SUPPORTED BY WILDLIFE REFUGES

Playing landlord to 44 different animals on the brink of extinction has become routine business for 139 national wildlife refuge managers in 39 States according to a recent survey by the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The survey was done as part of a draft environmental statement on the operation of the system of 385 national wildlife refuges. There are 137 animals listed as endangered species in the United States and its territories.

The biggest challenge is faced by the joint management of the Hanalei and the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuges in Hawaii. Between them they host eight endangered species, including four on the Hawaiian Islands Refuge--the Laysan duck, Laysan finch, Nihoa finch, and Nihoa millerbird--found nowhere else in the wild.

Two refuges in Florida come next, with each hosting six endangered species. Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge on the Kennedy Space Center is home to concentrations of the Florida manatee, the alligator, the southern bald eagle, the brown pelican, the dusky seaside sparrow, and the American peregrine falcon. The National Key Deer Refuge is the home of the endangered Key deer, smallest of all forms of the white-tailed deer.

(more)

This tiny (no bigger than a good-sized dog) relative of the common white-tailed deer, was all but annihilated during the 1940's. Alligators and manatees also inhabit the refuge, which is also visited regularly by southern bald eagles, brown pelicans, and American peregrine falcons.

Thirteen other refuges in Florida, Maryland, South Carolina, Texas, and California also face multiple wildlife management challenges because of either four or five endangered species dependent on each.

Some, like the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas, protect vital wintering habitat for nationally symbolic endangered migratory birds such as the whooping crane. More than 50 national wildlife refuges support southern bald eagles each winter.

The red-cockaded woodpecker is a year-round resident on nine refuges in the Southeastern United States. Refuges in Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina support this endangered woodpecker whose habitat is most vulnerable to manipulation of the forest environment. Current management practices on the 200,000 acres of forests on those refuges are designed to meet the needs of a variety of wildlife. Particular emphasis, however, is placed on leaving older, mature trees, specifically those with red-heart disease, which provide not only a source of food, but are used also for nesting by the red-cockaded woodpecker.

A long-term forestry planting plan has been put into effect in Maryland to provide nest trees for the Delmarva fox squirrel. Nesting trees for bald eagles are marked and protected from cutting on 50 national wildlife refuges.

The needs of endangered species are given first consideration in decisions regarding manipulation of the aquatic environment. For example, the Florida everglade kite, found on the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge in Florida, is dependent upon one animal--the apple snail--for food. Experiments are presently being conducted to determine how water management and fertilizer applications can enhance production of this particular snail, thus assuring a food source for the everglade kite. The management of taro paddies on the Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge is conducted especially for the Hawaiian stilt, Hawaiian gallinule, Hawaiian coot, and the Hawaiian duck.

The attached chart shows the distribution of endangered species by States on national wildlife refuges.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This is one of a series of three news releases based on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's recently released draft environmental statement, Operation of the National Wildlife Refuge System--an in-depth examination of the system as it exists today.

# GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF ENDANGERED ANIMALS BY STATE AND REFUGE

STATE and REFUGE		STATE and REFUGE		STATE and REFUGE	
<b>ALABAMA:</b>		<b>IDAHO:</b>		<b>NORTH DAKOTA:</b>	
Choctaw	43	Camas	22	Audubon	22
Eufaula	12, 43	Kootenai	22	Crosby W.P.A.'s	14, 22
Wheeler	12, 22	<b>INDIANA:</b>		<b>OKLAHOMA:</b>	
<b>ALASKA:</b>		Muscatatuck	35	Salt Plains	14, 22
Aleutian Islands	6, 22	<b>IOWA:</b>		Sequoyah	22
Kenai	22	De soto	22	<b>OREGON:</b>	
Kodiak	22	<b>KANSAS:</b>		Cold Springs	22
<b>ARIZONA:</b>		Kirwin	22	Klamath Forest	12
Cabeza Prieta	42	Quivira	14, 22	Lewis and Clark	22, 41
Cibola	16	<b>LOUISIANA:</b>		Lower Klamath	12
Havas	16	Breton	20, 43	McKay Creek	22
Imperial	16, 22	Catahoula	12, 43	Oregon Islands	20, 22
Kofa	22	Delta	22, 43	Upper Klamath	12
<b>ARKANSAS:</b>		Lacassine	12, 43	William L. Finley	22
Big Lake	22	Sabine	22, 37, 43	<b>SOUTH CAROLINA:</b>	
Wapanocca	22	<b>MAINE:</b>		Cape Romain	12, 20, 22, 30, 43
White River	43	Rachel Carson	23	Carolina Sandhills	30
<b>CALIFORNIA:</b>		<b>MARYLAND:</b>		Santee	12, 30, 43
Clear Lake	12	Blackwater	12, 22, 23, 33	<b>SOUTH DAKOTA:</b>	
Farallon	20, 22	Eastern Neck	12, 33	Lacreek	22
Hopper Mountain	10	Susquehanna	12	Lake Andes	22
Humboldt Bay*	6, 20, 22	<b>MASSACHUSETTS:</b>		Sand Lake	22
Kern	22, 38, 44	Monomoy	22	Sand Lake WPA's	14
Pixley	22, 38, 44	Parker River	22, 23	<b>TENNESSEE:</b>	
Sacramento	6, 22	<b>MICHIGAN:</b>		Cross Creeks	12
Salton Sea	16, 19, 21, 22	Seney	22, 36	Reelfoot	12
San Francisco Bay*	17, 19, 20, 32	<b>MINNESOTA:</b>		Tennessee	12, 22
San Luis	6, 38	Agassiz	22	<b>TEXAS:</b>	
Stal Beach	18, 20	Rice Lake	22	Attwater Prairie	
Tule Lake	12	Upper Mississippi	22	Chicken	13
<b>COLORADO:</b>		<b>MISSISSIPPI:</b>		Anahuac	12, 22, 37, 43
Alamosa	22	Noxubee	12, 30, 43	Aransas	12, 13, 14, 20, 43
Arapaho	22	Yazoo	39, 43	Brazoria	22, 37, 43
Brown's Park	2, 3	Mississippi Crane*	15	Buffalo Lake	12
<b>DELAWARE:</b>		<b>MISSOURI:</b>		Hagerman	12
Bombay Hook	12	Mingo	22	Laguna Atascosa	12, 22, 23, 43
<b>FLORIDA:</b>		Swan Lake	22	San Bernard	22, 37
Chassahowitzka	12, 20, 22, 34, 43	<b>MONTANA:</b>		Santa Ana	21, 22, 43
Hobe Sound	12, 20, 34, 43	N. E. Mont. W.P.A.'s	22	<b>UTAH:</b>	
J. N. "Ding" Darling	12, 20, 22, 34, 43	Benton Lake	22	Bear River	22
Lake Woodruff	12, 34, 43	Charles M. Russell	22	Fish Springs	22
Loxahatchee	11, 12, 39, 43	Medicine Lake	22	Ouray	2, 3
Merritt Island	12, 20, 22, 31, 34, 43	Red Rock Lakes	22	<b>VIRGINIA:</b>	
National Key Deer	12, 20, 22, 34, 40, 43	<b>NEBRASKA:</b>		Back Bay	22, 23
Pelican Island	20	Crescent Lake	22	Chincoteague	22, 23, 33
St. Johns	31, 43	Fort Niobrara	22	Fisherman Island	22, 23
St. Marks	12, 20, 22, 30, 43	Valentine	22	MacKay Island	30
St. Vincent	12, 20, 43	<b>NEVADA:</b>		Mason Neck	12
<b>GEORGIA:</b>		Charles Sheldon	1	Presquile	12
Blackbeard Island	20, 43	Desert	5	<b>WASHINGTON:</b>	
Harris Neck	20, 43	Ruby Lake	22	Columbian W.T. Deer	41
Okefenokee	30, 43	<b>NEW JERSEY:</b>		Dungeness	22
Piedmont	30	Brigantine	22	Wash. Islands	22
Savannah	12, 43	<b>NEW MEXICO:</b>		Willapa	22
Wassaw	20, 43	Bitter Lake	4, 9, 22	<b>WYOMING:</b>	
Wolf Island	20	Bosque del Apache	9, 22	Hutton Lake	22
<b>HAWAII:</b>		Maxwell	22	Pathfinder	22
Hawaiian Main Islands	8, 24, 25, 26	<b>NORTH CAROLINA:</b>		Seedskadee	22
Hawaiian Leeward Islands	7, 27, 28, 29	Mattamuskeet	12, 30		
		Pea Island	20, 22		
		Pee Dee	22		
		Swanquarter	30, 43		

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## LEGEND ENDANGERED ANIMALS FOUND ON NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

- |                                       |                              |                                |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Lahontan Cutthroat Trout            | 16 Yuma clapper rail         | 31 Dusky seaside sparrow       |
| 2 Humpback Chub                       | 17 California clapper rail   | 32 Salt marsh harvest mouse    |
| 3 Colorado River squawfish            | 18 Light-footed clapper rail | 33 Delmarva fox squirrel       |
| 4 Pecos gambusia                      | 19 California least tern     | 34 Florida manatee             |
| 5 Pahrump killifish                   | 20 Brown pelican             | 35 Indiana bat                 |
| 6 Aleutian Canada goose               | 21 Ocelot                    | 36 Eastern timber wolf         |
| 7 Laysan duck                         | 22 American peregrine falcon | 37 Red wolf                    |
| 8 Hawaiian duck                       | 23 Arctic peregrine falcon   | 38 San Joaquin kit fox         |
| 9 Mexican duck                        | 24 Hawaiian gallinule        | 39 Florida panther             |
| 10 California condor                  | 25 Hawaiian coot             | 40 Key deer                    |
| 11 Florida everglade kite             | 26 Hawaiian stilt            | 41 Columbian white-tailed deer |
| 12 Southern bald eagle                | 27 Nihoa millerbird warbler  | 42 Sonoran pronghorn           |
| 13 Attwater's greater prairie chicken | 28 Laysan finch              | 43 American alligator          |
| 14 Whooping crane                     | 29 Nihoa finch               | 44 Blunt-nosed leopard lizard  |
| 15 Mississippi sandhill crane         | 30 Red-cockaded woodpecker   |                                |

\*In various stages of acquisition